

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 290

By Bailey

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Upperman High School girls' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I Class AA State Championship.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to specially honor and commend those successful school athletic teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary group of student athletes is the Upperman High School girls' basketball team, as the team achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2016-2017 season by capturing the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Division I Class AA State Championship; and

WHEREAS, traveling to the Murphy Center at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), the young women of Upperman High School made their way across the bracket by defeating Jackson South Side High School by a score of 52-43 and East Nashville Magnet School by a score of 61-44; and

WHEREAS, their final opponents were the Pearl Cohn High School Lady Firebirds. Though the Lady Bees struggled to score in the first half of the game, their offense exploded in the third quarter and narrowed the deficit. By the final buzzer, the Upperman ladies had tied the score and pushed the game into its first overtime; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Bees and the Lady Firebirds fought neck-and-neck, and the state championship game went into a second overtime. This round again saw these two fierce opponents fight evenly, but through exceptional teamwork and perseverance, the Upperman Lady Bees defeated the Lady Firebirds by a final score of 66-62; and

WHEREAS, the tremendous victory is the first state championship for the Upperman High School girls' basketball team, which enjoyed an overall season record of 34-4; and

WHEREAS, the members of this magnificent team are Riley Hurst, Akira Levy, Lexie Martin, Lexie Strickland, Gracie Maynord, Brooke Shrum, Abby Greenwood, Kori Moss, Graci Waller, Ashland McClellan, and Anna Torrence; and

WHEREAS, Lady Bees Akira Levy, Abby Greenwood, and Gracie Maynord were named to the All-State Tournament team, and Akira Levy was chosen Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, these state champions all benefited from the vast knowledge and stellar guidance of their head coach, Dana McWilliams, and assistant coach, Amanda Asberry; and

WHEREAS, the young women of the Upperman High School girls' basketball team have displayed ability, teamwork, and perseverance, and with the help of their coaches, parents, teachers, school administrators, supporters, and many fans, they have represented their school and the State of Tennessee in fine fashion, displaying peerless character both on and off the basketball court; and

WHEREAS, during this incredible championship season, the members of the Upperman Lady Bees etched their names into the annals of Tennessee sports history; their dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent not only made possible a successful and memorable basketball season but also surely point toward their success in future endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the members and staff of the Upperman High School girls' basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I Class AA State Championship and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.